WEST FRANKFORT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2022

1. MAYOR JORDAN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 10:00 A.M. REQUESTING A ROLL CALL. ALL COMMISSIONERS WERE IN ATTENDANCE. THE CITY ATTORNEY WAS ABSENT BUT THE CITY CLERK WAS PRESENT.

2. MAYOR JORDAN ASKED FOR APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 13TH, 2022 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING. COMMISSIONER SIMPSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HARKINS. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

3. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO PAY CITY BILLS AND PAYROLL IN THE AMOUNT OF $157,331.42. COMMISSIONER SIMPSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

4. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT TO THE VACANT POSITION OF FINANCE COMMISSIONER. THE MAYOR STATED THIS IS TO FILL A VACANCY LEFT BY MARILYN SIMPSON. FIRST OF ALL, I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US. IT HAS BEEN A JOY HAVING YOU HERE WITH US. FOR THE UPCOMING ELECTION FOR CITY COUNCIL; WE ONLY HAD FOUR PEOPLE THAT TOOK OUT PETITIONS FOR A COMMISSIONER'S SPOTS. ALL THE CURRENT BOARD TOOK OUT A PETITION TO RUN EXCEPT FOR MRS. SIMPSON. BUT WE DID HAVE KEITH HOWARD WHO WANTED TO RUN AND PICKED UP A PETITION SO HE WILL RUN WITH NO OPPOSITION IN APRIL. THEY WILL START SERVING IN MAY SO IT IS ONLY APPROPRIATE SINCE THERE IS NO OPPOSITION, TO APPOINT KEITH HOWARD TO THE VACANT POSITION. THIS RESOLUTION IS IN FULL FORCE AND STARTS TOMORROW. COMMISSIONER HARKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

5. THE NEXT ITEM WAS DISCUSSION, WITH POSSIBLE ACTION, REGARDING AN APPROVAL TO PROMOTE JESSE JEFFORDS TO THE POSITION OF CAPTAIN FOR THE CITY OF WEST FRANKFORT FIRE DEPARTMENT. FIRE CHIEF SAILLIEZ STATED THIS PROMOTION WAS ACTUALLY MADE BACK IN JUNE BUT HE HAS BEEN GONE SERVING AS MEDIC IN AFRICA WITH THE UNITED STATES ARMY THIS IS MORE OF A FORMALITY. COMMISSIONER HARKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

6. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL OF PAY ESTIMATE #15 AND FINAL TO SAMRON MIDWEST CONTRACTING, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF $147,510.89 FOR THE EDA AWARD 06-01-06132 CONTRACT 2. COMMISSIONER SIMPSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

7. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO PAY AN INVOICE FROM REND LAKE COLLEGE IN THE AMOUNT OF $2,350.00 REGARDING SPRING SEMESTER OF PARAMEDIC PROGRAM FOR THE WEST FRANKFORT FIRE DEPARTMENT. COMMISSIONER HARKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

8. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO PAY AN INVOICE FROM SYDENSTRICKER NOBLE/ JOHN DEERE IN THE AMOUNT OF $6,624.36 REGARDING REPAIRS TO A TRACTOR FOR THE STREET DEPARTMENT. COMMISSIONER STANLEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WARREN. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

9. BUILDING AND SIGN PERMITS ~

   THERE WERE NO BUILDING OR SIGN PERMITS.

10. MAYOR'S REPORT ~

    THE MAYOR STATED THAT HOLIDAYS IN A SMALL TOWN ARE

WONDERFUL. HOPEFULLY EVERYONE HAD A GOOD HOLIDAY TOO. WE LOOK FORWARD TO NEXT YEAR THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS WE HAVE DONE AND ACCOMPLISHED THAT WE ARE GOING TO MOVE FORWARD WITH AND CONTINUE. I WOULD JUST LIKE TO WISH EVERYONE A HAPPY NEW YEAR, THE NEXT TIME WE ALL MEET HERE IT WILL BE 2023.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

COMMISSIONER HARKINS STATED THAT OUR POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS WERE BUSY DURING THEIR CHRISTMAS. THE ONES ON DUTY SURE STAYED BUSY. I APPRECIATE EACH AND EVERYONE OF THEM.

COMMISSIONER STANLEY STATED THAT THE GUYS WERE OUT MONDAY SHOVELING SNOW, CLEANING SIDEWALKS, AND THE ROADS.

COMMISSIONER WARREN STATED EVERYONE IS WORKING. WE HAD A FEW WATER BREAKS THAT THEY GUYS HAVE BEEN BUSY WORKING ON OVER THE HOLIDAY AND DURING THIS COLD SPELL WE HAVE BEEN DEALING WITH. SEWER IS RUNNING FINE; I HAVEN'T HEARD FROM CHARLES HUBBLE THE SUPERINTENDENT SO NO ONE HAS TOLD ME ANY DIFFERENT.

COMMISSIONER SIMPSON STATED SHE WOULD LIKE TO GO LAST. IM GOING TO DO THIS WITHOUT CRYING. SHE STATED SHE APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY YOU GAVE ME TO FILL IN THIS SPOT. IT'S BEEN A BLESSING, IT'S HELPED IN MY HEALING PROCESS, IT HAS BLESSED MY LIFE AND I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR THE OPPORTUNITY. I LOVE YOU ALL AND I JUST APPRECIATE IT SO MUCH. THE MAYOR STATED JACK WOOLARD TOLD ME SOMETHING WHEN I WAS RUNNING FOR MAYOR AND IS THE FOCAL POINT FOR THIS COUNCIL THIS IS NOT A HARD JOB IF YOU WANT TO DO THE RIGHT THING AND DO WHATS RIGHT. IF YOU WANT TO TRY TO PLEASE PEOPLE AND DP WHAT PEOPLE WANT YOU TO DO YOU CAN'T MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY AND IT BECOMES DIFFICULT, WE HAVE TO SAY NO A LOT BECAUSE THINGS AREN'T RIGHT. WE CAN'T DO IT. BUT IF YOU REALLY GENIUNELY CARE; AS ALL OF US UP HERE DO, WE ARE HERE TO MAKE THIS A BETTER PLACE, A BETTER CITY AND YOU HAVE HELPED US DO THAT MARILYN. WHEN IT COMES TO MAKING A DECISION, YOU MAKE IT BASED ON WHATS RIGHT AND WHATS BEST

FOR THE COMMUNITY WITHOUT ANY BIASES OR HOW ITS GOING TO EFFECT OTHERS. THE MAYOR STATED MRS. SIMPSON HAS ENRICHED US BY BEING HERE AND I HOPE YOU KNOW THAT YOUR ALWAYS WELCOME TO COME BACK. WE APPRECIATE EVERYTHING YOU HAVE DONE.

11. AUDIENCE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS: JOSH STURGILL LIVES OVER ON LINDELL STREET. HE HAS A BIG PROBLEM WITH THE DRUG MAKING AND THIEVING THAT GOES ON BY HIS PROPERTY FROM 4TH STREET TO ST LOUIS STREET. HE HAS CALLED THE POLICE SEVERAL TIMES FOR BURGLARIES AND SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOR OF PEOPLE IN HIS NEIGHBORHOOD THAT DO NOT LIVE THERE. HE HAS LIVED IN THAT HOUSE FOR OVER SIXTEEN (16) YEARS, RAISED HIS KIDS THERE, HE HIMSELF WAS BORN AND RAISED HERE IN WEST FRANKFORT. HE STATED IF THE POLICE CAN NOT HELP BECAUSE THEIR HANDS ARE TIED WITH LAWS, THEN HE WILL BE TAKING MATTERS INTO HIS OWN HANDS. HE WANTS TO HAVE PEACE WHEN HE IS IN HIS YARD; NOT HAVE NEIGHBORS YELLING CUSSING AT EACH OTHER, THROWING FURNITURE OUT IN THE ROADS, DOING DRUGS IN FRONT OF HIS HOUSE, RANDOM PEOPLE CHECKING OUT HIS POSSESSIONS WHEN HE IS OUT IN HIS GARAGE. HE WILL NOT LET THESE PEOPLE RUN HIM OUT OF HIS HOUSE. HE STATED HE WILL TAKE CARE OF THE DRUG DEALERS AND THE TRASH THESE PEOPLE THROW IN OTHER PEOPLES PROPERTIES AND ROADS HIMSELF. HE DOES NOT CARE TO BE THE FIRST PERSON TO GET ARRESTED FOR STANDING UP TO THESE PEOPLE. IN YEARS PAST HE SAID HE WAS MINDING HIS OWN BUSINESS AS LONG AS THE DRUGS ETC, STAYED AWAY FROM HIS NEIGHBORHOOD, WELL NOW ITS RIGHT NEXT DOOR, AND HE WILL TAKE MATTERS INTO HIS OWN HANDS. CHIEF PRUDENT STATED HE WOULD BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO SIT DOWN AND DISCUSS THIS IN MORE DETAIL AFTER THE MEETING IS ADJOURNED.

12. THE NEXT ITEM WAS CAPTAIN JESSE JEFFORDS RECEIVING AND ACCEPTING THE OATH FOR THE DUTY AS CAPTAIN FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR THE CITY OF WEST FRANKFORT.

13. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS, UNION GRIEVANCES, PERSONNEL, PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AND/OR PENDING LITIGATION, WITH POSSIBLE ACTION. COMMISSIONER HARKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE:

ALL COMMISSIONERS ALONG WITH THE MAYOR VOTED YES. MOTION CARRIED. THE COUNCIL WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:29 A.M.

14. THEY RETURNED FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 11:01 A.M. WHERE THEY TOOK NO ACTION. THE MAYOR ASKED FOR A MOTION TO GO BACK INTO REGULAR SESSION. COMMISSIONER HARKINS MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

15. IN EXECUTIVE SESSION THE MAYOR TALKED TO THE COUNCIL ABOUT SCOTT TIMMERMAN OF MIDWEST ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, LLC WITH WHOM THEY WOULD LIKE THE TO HAVE THE COUNCIL'S PERMISSION TO HIRE AS CLASS (1) ONE OPERATOR IN CHARGE FOR THE SEWER DEPARTMENT. THIS AGREEMENT WOULD BE FOR SIX (6) MONTHS. SINCE CHARLES HUBBLE IS RETIRING THIS WILL KEEP OUR SEWER PLANT RUNNING. COMMISSIONER WARREN MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

16. WITH NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED ON A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HARKINS AT 11:02 A.M.

MAYOR TOM JORDAN

ANGELA BAKER DEATON, CITY CLERK